

1 The Dublin Core Metadata Element Set is a vocabulary of fifteen properties for use in resource description. The name "Dublin" is due to its origin at a 1995 invitational workshop in Dublin, Ohio; "core" because its elements are broad and generic, usable for describing a wide range of resources.

dc: <http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/>
"aka the original 15"

2 contributor
coverage
creator
date
description
format
identifier
language
publisher
relation
rights
source
subject
title
type

dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/>
extended 55 terms including the original 15

abstract
accessRights
accrualMethod
accrualPeriodicity
accrualPolicy
alternative
audience
available
bibliographicCitation
conformsTo
contributor
→ coverage
created
→ creator
→ date
dateAccepted
dateCopyrighted
dateSubmitted
→ description
educationLevel
extent
→ format
hasFormat
hasPart
hasVersion
→ identifier
instructionalMethod
isFormatOf
isPartOf
isReferencedBy
isReplacedBy
isRequiredBy
issued
isVersionOf
→ language
license
mediator
medium
modified
provenance
→ publisher
references
→ relation
replaces
requires
→ rights
rightsHolder
→ source
spatial
→ subject
tableOfContents
temporal
→ title
→ type
valid

3 Subsequent to the specification of the original 15 elements, an ongoing process to develop exemplary terms extending or refining the Dublin Core Metadata Element Set (DCMES) was begun. The additional terms were identified, generally in working groups of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative, and judged by the DCMI Usage Board to be in conformance with principles of good practice for the qualification of Dublin Core metadata elements.

Elements refinements make the meaning of an element narrower or more specific. A refined element shares the meaning of the unqualified element, but with a more restricted scope. The guiding principle for the qualification of Dublin Core elements, colloquially known as the Dumb-Down Principle, states that an application that does not understand a specific element refinement term should be able to ignore the qualifier and treat the metadata value as if it were an unqualified (broader) element. While this may result in some loss of specificity, the remaining element value (without the qualifier) should continue to be generally correct and useful for discovery.

Sources:

- 1 <http://www.dublincore.org/documents/dces/>
- 2 <http://dublincore.org/documents/2012/06/14/dcmi-terms/>
- 3 https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Dublin_Core&oldid=569088477